

DETAILED ACTION

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As to claims 58, 66, 73, and 74, the claims recite a display device having channeled rails which combines a tensioning means to hold a poster backing in compression with a biasing means located inside the rails for retaining the top and bottom edges of the backing. There are prior art devices, such as taught by Forhman (US-4717110) which retains a resilient backing by tensioning means. There are other prior art devices that include a biasing means within the channels to retain a poster. However the combination of the two is not taught by the art and there is no reason provided by the prior art that renders this combination obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.

As to claim 63, the claim recites a backing, a tensioning means, a flexible screen, and channeled rails. The nearest prior art is that taught by Fossum (US-6742294). However Fossum teaches channeled rails that are tensioned by the single-piece transparent frame, which are integral with the rails. The backing 26 is retained in the rails against its resilience, but the tensioning means would not be "securable on a rear side of the backing" since it is integral with the front of the device. The claimed invention is materially different from that taught by the prior art and could not be achieved by obvious modifications to the known prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CHRISTOPHER E. VERA whose telephone number is (571)272-2329. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 8:00 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lesley Morris can be reached on 571-272-6651. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/C. E. V./
Examiner, Art Unit 3611

/Lesley D. Morris/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3611